

FUKUDA et al. -- 10/732,811  
Attorney Docket: 041283-0307179

REMARKS

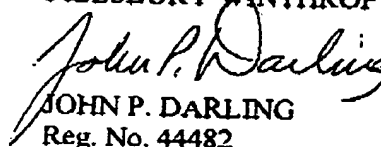
Claims 1-4, 6 and 8-19 are pending. By this Amendment, claim 7 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer; claims 1, 8, 12 and 16 are amended; and claims 17-19 are added. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicants appreciate the indication that claims 7-9 define patentable subject matter. By this Amendment, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 7; allowable claim 8 has been rewritten in independent form; and claims 12 and 16 have been amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 7.

As the Examiner acknowledged that the subject matter of claim 7 is not disclosed or suggested by the prior art of record, it is respectfully submitted that the incorporation of the subject matter of claim 7 into claim 12 places claim 12 in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement, rejoinder of claims 12-15, and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: April 29, 2005

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